



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/927,175
Filing Date: August 10, 2001
Applicant: DiChiara
Group Art Unit: 1762
Examiner: Michael Barr
Title: SURFACE PROTECTION OF POROUS CERAMIC BODIES
Attorney Docket: 7784-000171

Mail Stop
Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment Accompanying a Request For Continued Examination

Sir:

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed November 19, 2003, Applicants have filed a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, the finality of the rejection is removed.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks before Examination on the merits. With a one-month extension of time, action is timely if taken on or before March 19, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.